non-conventional threats to the security of Singapore and Malaysia. The FPDA Consultative Council (FCC) will study and examine the envisaged threats and forward their recommendation to be discussed in the next Ministerial Meeting.

Visit of Israeli Envoy to India

1994. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an envoy from Israel had visited India, recently;

(b) the purpose of his visit; and

(c) the details of discussions held with him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) Yes.

(b) To brief the Indian Government on Israeli perspectives on recent developments in the Israel-Palestinian peace process.

(c) Maj. Gen. David Ivry, Special Envoy of Israeli Foreign Minister called on Deputy Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister. He was also received by PS to PM and NSA. These discussions centered on bilateral issues and developments in the West Asia situation.

Women emoployees in RPO, Hyderabad

1995. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are adequate number of women working in the Regional Passport Office at Hyderabad;

(b) the details of number of women officers and employees holding responsible positions;

(c) whether, Government would post adequate women employees to attend a large number of women from conservative social background visiting the passport office to get their passports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) Yes.

(b) to (d) There are 36 female staff members in Passport Office, Hyderabad including two women officers, out of the total staff strength of 112. Female staff are deployed at separate counters meant for ladies only as well as in other sections of Passport Office, Hyderabad.

Indians in foreign jails

1996. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many Indians are harassed and are languishing in jails abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof, country-wise; and

(c) the action taken to bring them back and to ensure such incidents do not re-occur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) and (c) There are some Indians in jails abroad for violation of local laws. Indian Missions abroad provide all possible assistance to Indian nationals in foreign jails, including their early repatriation to India where possible, speedy trail, proper treatment and living conditions and ensure that there is no miscarriage of justice.

(b) A Statement providing desired information in respect of 103 countries is enclosed.

Statement

Indians in foreign jails

Sl.No.	Country	Number of Indians languishing in foreign jails
1	2	3
1.	Algeria	Nil
2.	Argentina	3 under house arrest
3.	Armenia	1
4.	Australia	1
5.	Austria	Nil